

Induced Abortion

According to South Dakota Codified Law chapter 34-23A, physicians are required to submit to the Department of Health the Report of Induced Abortion Form, a Voluntary and Informed Consent Form for all abortions, and a Parental Notice Form where applicable. These forms can be seen in Appendix A on pages 239-241.

An Overview: 2007

Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota	707
Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota on South Dakota Residents	609

Patient Information

There were 707 abortions performed in South Dakota in 2007, down from the 748 abortions performed in 2006. Of the 707 abortions performed in South Dakota, 609 or

86.1 percent were performed on South Dakota residents. Table 65, below, provides the residence and age breakdown for the abortions performed in South Dakota.

Table 65
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's State of Residence and Age, 2007

	Total	AGE OF PATIENT					
		0-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 +
Number	707	46	89	244	149	104	75
Percent	100	6.5	12.6	34.5	21.1	14.7	10.6
<u>State of Residence</u>							
South Dakota	609	37	76	221	131	83	61
Minnesota	54	7	8	13	10	11	5
Iowa	31	2	4	9	4	7	5
Other	13	0	1	1	4	3	4

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 66
South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Patient's Resident County, 2007

County	Induced Abortions	County	Induced Abortions
Aurora	---	Hyde	0
Beadle	---	Jackson	---
Bennett	---	Jerauld	0
Bon Homme	0	Jones	---
Brookings	29	Kingsbury	---
Brown	14	Lake	---
Brule	---	Lawrence	19
Buffalo	0	Lincoln	27
Butte	---	Lyman	---
Campbell	0	McCook	---
Charles Mix	---	McPherson	0
Clark	---	Marshall	0
Clay	10	Meade	---
Codington	15	Mellette	---
Corson	0	Miner	---
Custer	---	Minnehaha	277
Davison	10	Moody	---
Day	---	Pennington	79
Deuel	0	Perkins	0
Dewey	---	Potter	0
Douglas	0	Roberts	---
Edmunds	0	Sanborn	---
Fall River	---	Shannon	---
Faulk	0	Spink	---
Grant	---	Stanley	---
Gregory	---	Sully	---
Haakon	0	Todd	---
Hamlin	---	Tripp	---
Hand	---	Turner	---
Hanson	0	Union	---
Harding	0	Walworth	---
Hughes	---	Yankton	11
Hutchinson	---	Ziebach	---

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 67
South Dakota Resident Induced
Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Patient's Resident City, 2007

Resident City	Number
Aberdeen	13
Brandon	11
Brookings	23
Mitchell	10
Rapid City	69
Sioux Falls	255
Spearfish	12
Vermillion	10
Watertown	15
Yankton	10
All Other	181
Total	609

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 66, above, shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 67, to the right, shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence for 2007.

NOTE: To protect the privacy of the patient, only counties or cities with at least 10 events are included in each table.

Table 68, below, indicates that women age 20-24 comprise the largest percentage of the induced abortions which occurred in South Dakota with 34.5 percent of the abortions. Women ages 25-29 comprise the next largest percent with 21.1 percent of abortions which occurred in South Dakota. This is also true for South Dakota residents where women age 20-24 received 36.3 percent and women ages 25-29 received

21.5 percent of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota on South Dakota residents.

Table 69, below, indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 80.3 percent were white, while 8.2 percent were American Indian. Blacks accounted for 6.5 percent while Asians accounted for 5 percent.

Table 68
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Age and
South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions by Age, 2007

Patient's Age	Occurring in South Dakota		South Dakota Residents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<=17	46	6.5	37	6.1
18-19	89	12.6	76	12.5
20-24	244	34.5	221	36.3
25-29	149	21.1	131	21.5
30-34	104	14.7	83	13.6
35-39	53	7.5	45	7.4
40+	22	3.1	16	2.6
Total	707	100.0	609	100.0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 69
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by
Patient's Age and Race, 2007

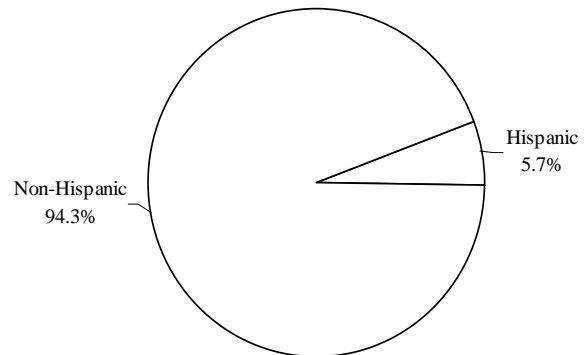
Patient's Age	Total	Patients' Race			
		White	American Indian	Black	Asian
Number	707	568	58	46	35
Percent	100.0	80.3	8.2	6.5	5.0
<=17	46	35	6	3	2
18-19	89	78	6	2	3
20-24	244	197	18	18	11
25-29	149	112	18	8	11
30-34	104	83	7	9	5
35-39	53	42	2	6	3
40 +	22	21	1	0	0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 15, to the right, illustrates that most of the women, 94.3 percent, were non-Hispanic. South Dakota's population consists of 1.5 percent Hispanic women age 15 to 44.

Table 70, below, shows the education and marital status of the induced abortion patients. Considering education, 226 or 32 percent of the 707 patients who received induced abortions in South Dakota reported their highest level of education completed was high school graduate or GED.

Figure 15
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Ethnicity of Patient, 2007



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 70
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Patient's Education and Marital Status, 2007

	Marital Status		
	Total	Single	Married
Total	707	589	118
Education of Patient			
8 th Grade or Less	13	12	1
Some High School	100	95	5
High School Graduate or GED	226	184	42
Some College, but No Degree	203	177	26
Associate Degree/Bachelor's Degree	147	107	40
Master's Degree/Doctorate			
Votech	18	14	4

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Payment Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asks questions about how much the abortion cost and who paid for the abortion. Table 71, on the next page, indicates that in 2007, 95.9 percent of all abortions performed in South Dakota were self-pay while 3.8 percent were paid by private insurance and 0.3 percent

were paid by public health plans. Of the 29 abortions paid by private insurance or a public health plan, 8 were paid by a managed care insurance company, 20 by a fee-for-service insurance company, and the remaining one was other.

Table 71
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Payment and Insurance Coverage Type, 2007

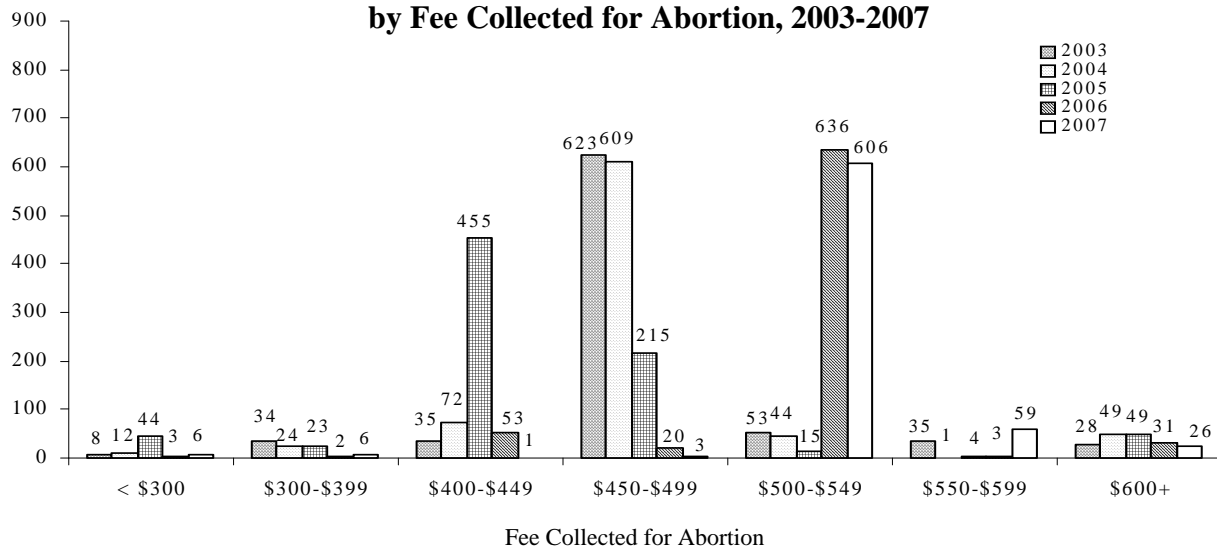
Payment Source	Total	Fee-for-service Insurance Co.	Managed Care Company	Other	No Insurance or Not Specified
Private Insurance	27	19	8	0	0
Public Health Plan	2	1	0	1	0
Self	678	0	0	0	678
Total	707	20	8	1	678

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

The majority, 85.7 percent, of abortions in 2007 cost between \$500 and \$549. In 2003 and 2004, most abortions fell into the \$450 to \$499 category. While in 2005, the majority of abortions fell into the \$400 to \$449 range. In 2006, the majority of

abortions fell into the \$500 to \$549 range. Figure 16, below, compares the fees for 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. This shows that the majority of the abortions performed in 2007 cost the same as in 2006.

Figure 16
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Fee Collected for Abortion, 2003-2007



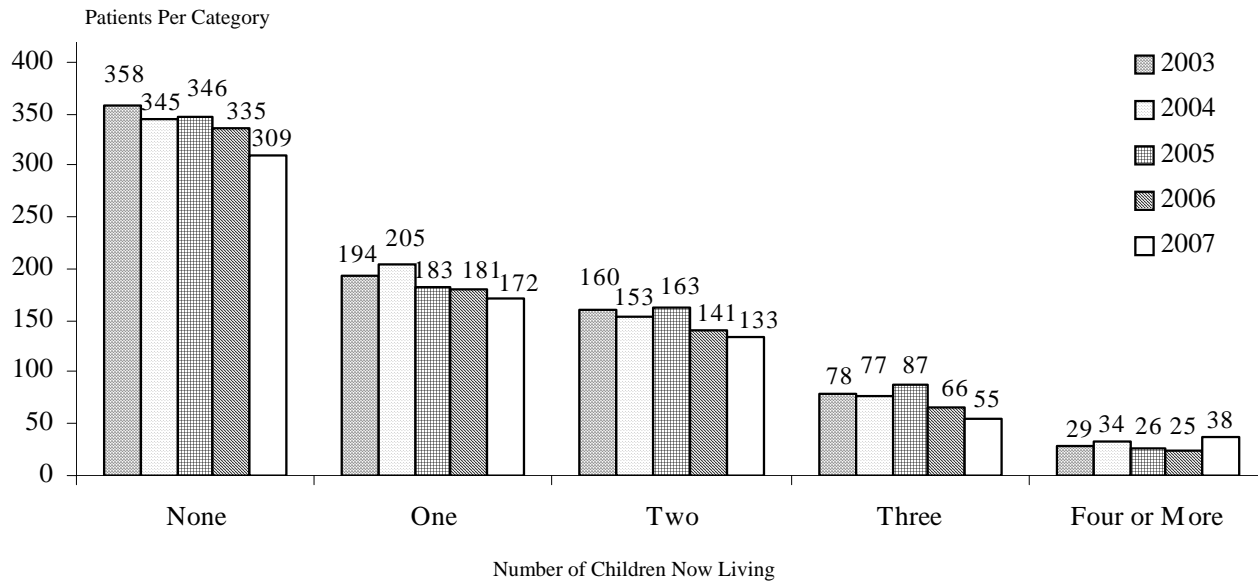
Note: In 2003 fees collected for induced abortions were clarified to include all services related in any manner to the induced abortion.
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Previous Pregnancies

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions about previous pregnancies. Figure 17, on the next page, illustrates the number of children now living reported by the patients who received abortions in South Dakota for 2003, 2004,

2005, 2006, and 2007. Of the women reporting in 2007, 43.7 percent reported having no living children. Only 1 percent had one or more live births that are now deceased.

Figure 17
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by the Number of
Patient's Children Who are Now Living, 2003-2007

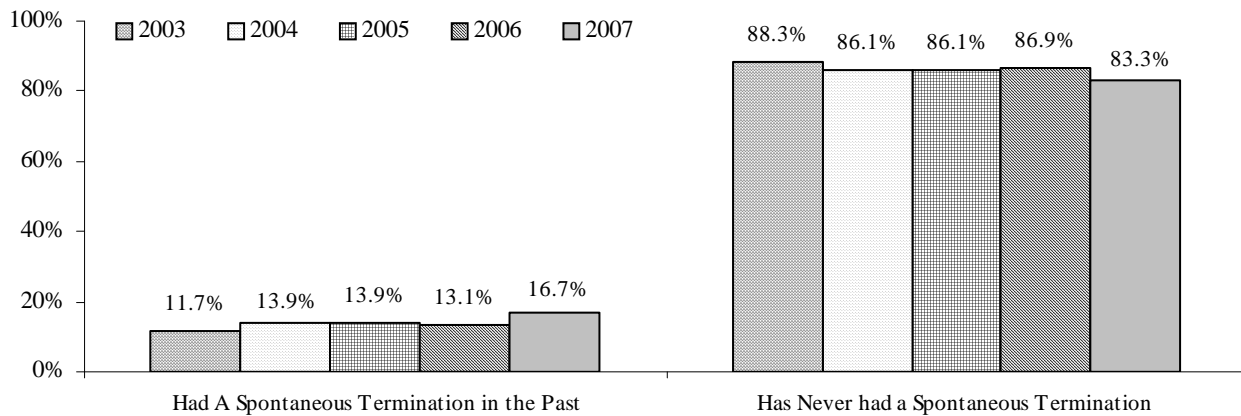


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 18, below, indicates that 16.7 percent of patients had a spontaneous termination in the past. For this report, a spontaneous abortion is defined as an abortion in which the process starts of its own accord through

natural causes. The majority of the patients, 83.3 percent, who obtained induced abortions in 2007 reported they had never had a spontaneous termination.

Figure 18
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by
Previous Spontaneous Abortions, 2003-2007



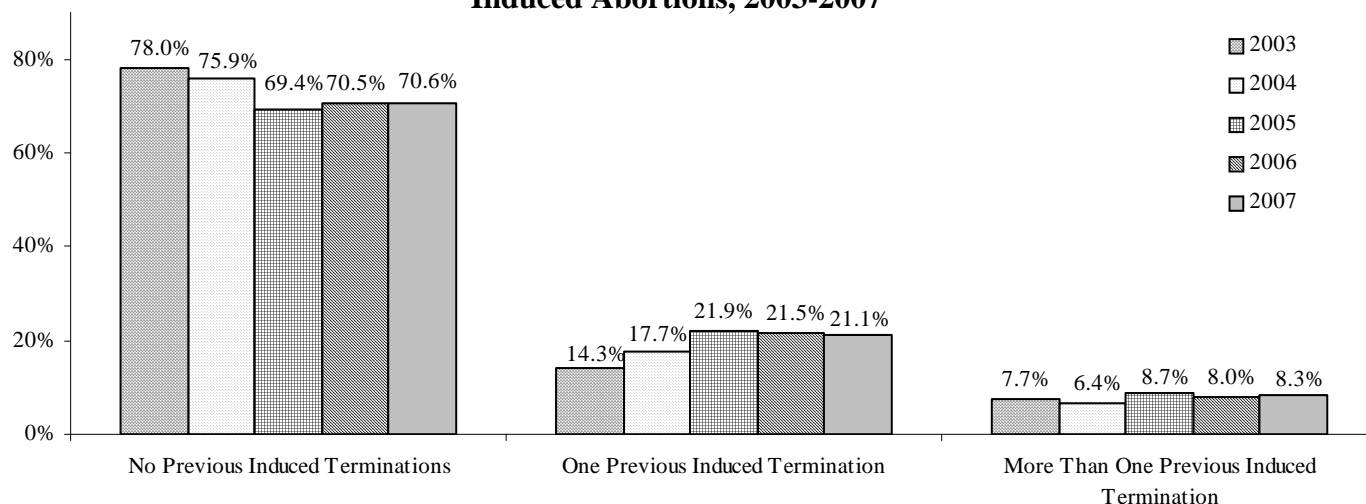
Note: Failure to add to 100 percent as a result of not stated.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 19, below, illustrates the number of previous induced abortions reported by the patients. For this report, an induced abortion is defined as the use of any means to intentionally terminate the pregnancy of a

female known to be pregnant with knowledge that the termination with those means will with reasonable likelihood, cause the death of the fetus.

Figure 19
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous
Induced Abortions, 2003-2007



Note: Failure to add to 100 percent as a result of not stated.

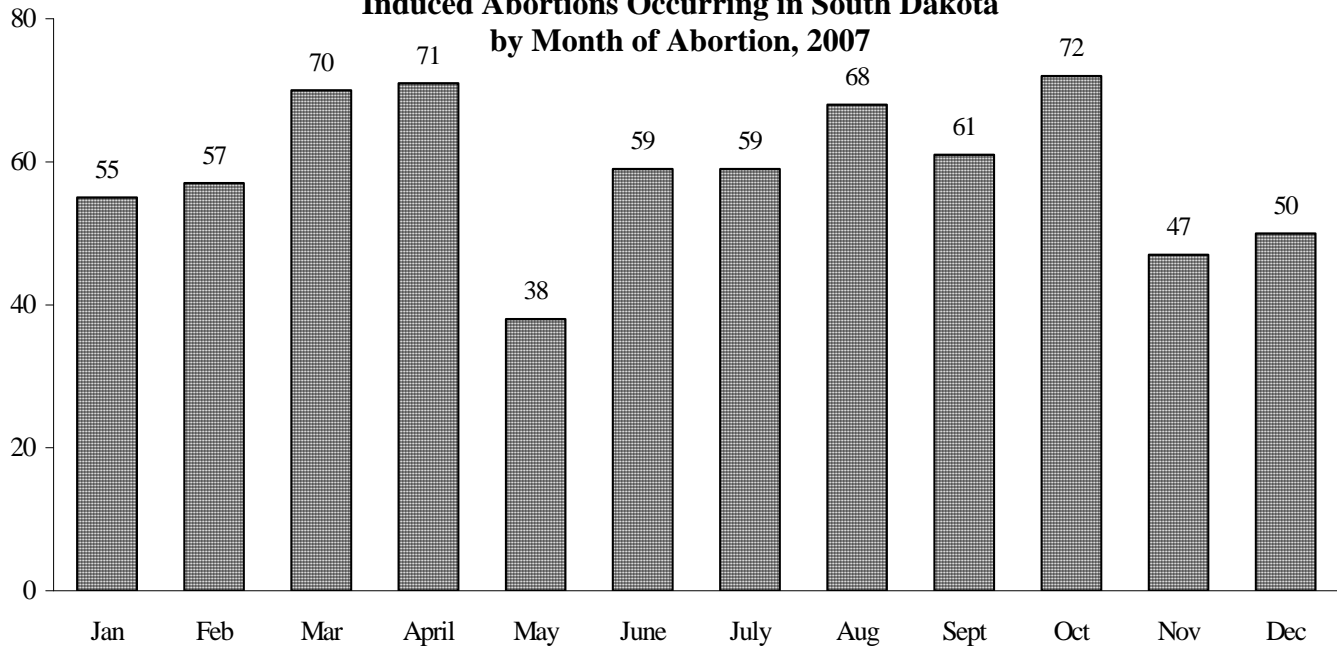
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

As seen in Figure 19, above, the majority of patients, 70.6 percent, reported that they had no previous induced abortions. In comparison, in 2007 21.1 percent had obtained one previous induced abortion and 8.3 percent had obtained more than one previous induced abortion. In 2006, 21.5 percent had one previous induced abortion while, 8.0 percent had more than one previous induced abortion.

Medical Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions aimed at obtaining medical information. Figure 20, on the next page, lists the number of induced abortions performed in South Dakota during 2007 by month of occurrence. The fewest numbers of abortions were performed in May while the greatest occurred in October.

Figure 20
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Month of Abortion, 2007

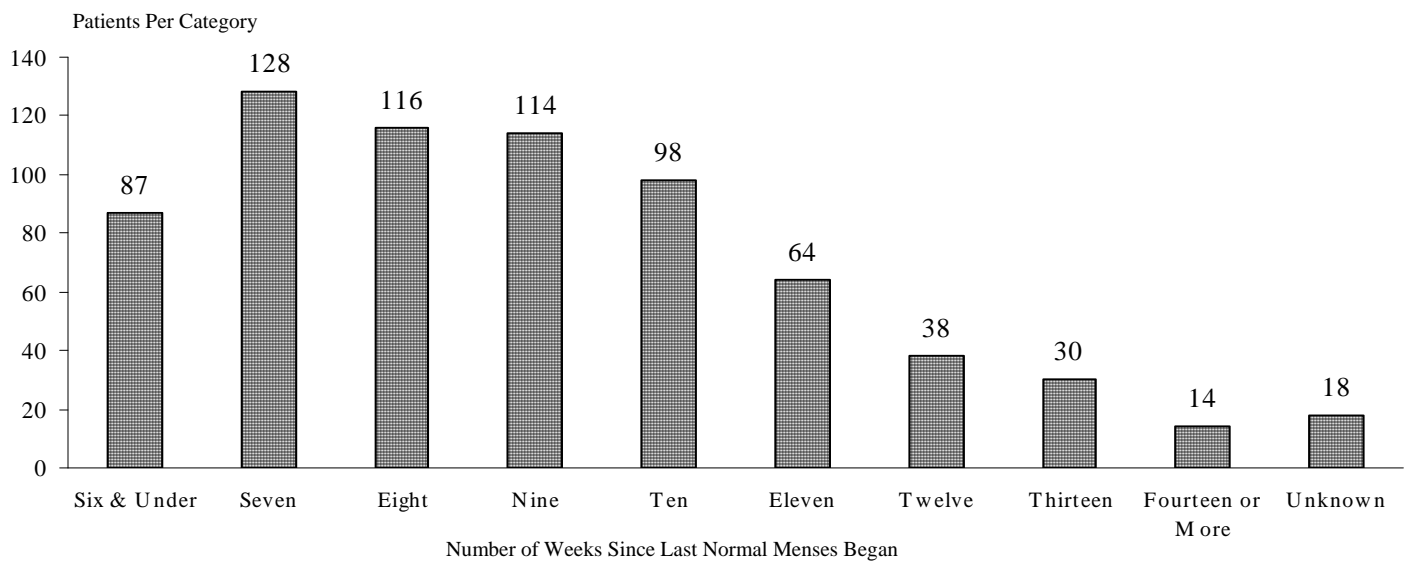


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 21, below, shows the number of weeks between the date the last normal menses began and the abortion date. Most

of the patients, 445, reported that their last normal menses began within 10 weeks prior to the induced abortion date.

Figure 21
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Number of Weeks Since Last Normal Menses Began, 2007

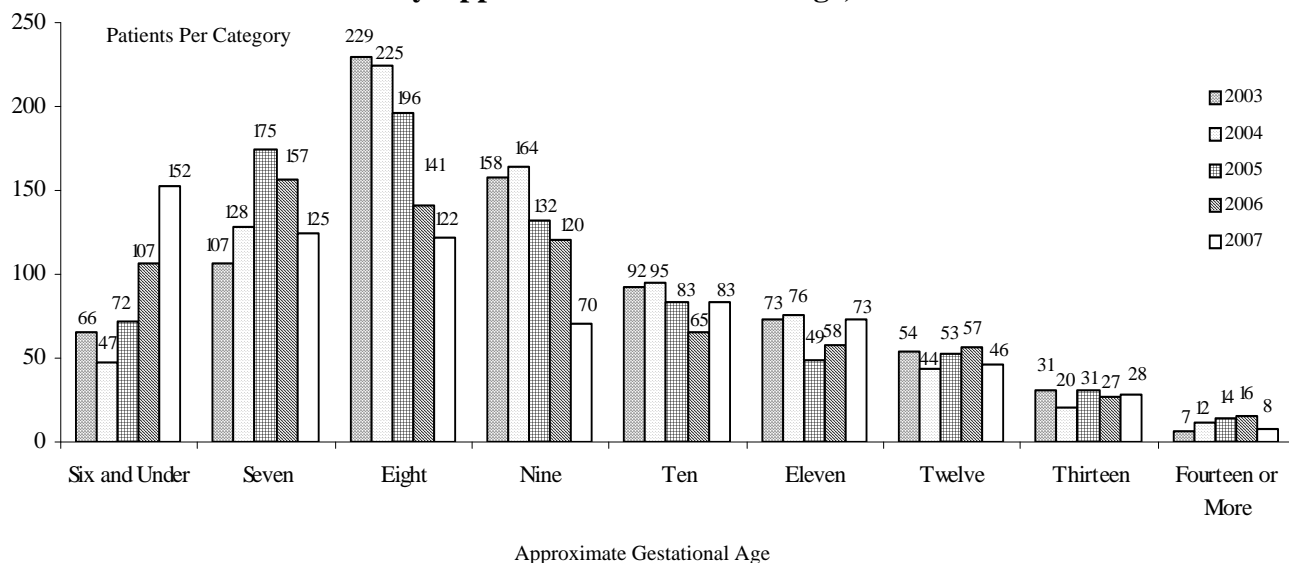


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 22, below, shows the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota from 2003 to 2007 by the clinical estimated weeks of gestation.

The largest number of patients in 2007, 152, received abortions at six weeks and under of estimated gestation.

Figure 22
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Approximate Gestational Age, 2003-2007

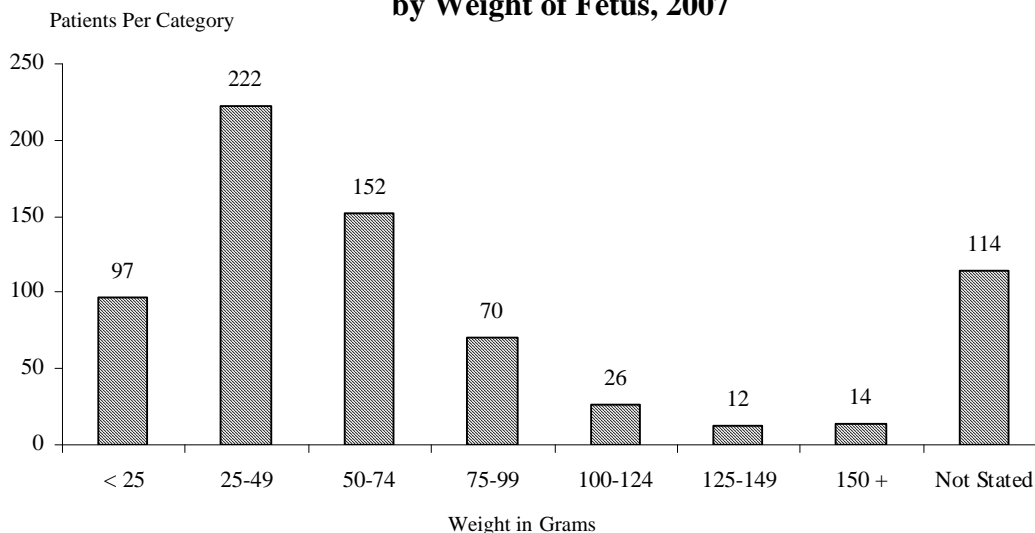


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 23, below, lists the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota by the weight of the fetus. The category with the largest number of occurrences was

the 25 to 49 gram category. For comparison, fetuses in this category would weigh approximately .88 to 1.73 ounces.

Figure 23
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Weight of Fetus, 2007



Note: One gram equals approximately .0353 ounces or one ounce equals approximately 28.3 grams.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 72, to the right, illustrates the number of abortions that were performed with the knowledge that a fetal abnormality existed. Of the abortions performed in 2007, 9 or 1.3 percent of the forms indicated that there was a fetal abnormality present at the time of the abortion. Most of the forms indicated that it was unknown if a fetal abnormality was present at the time of the abortion.

Table 72
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Fetal Abnormality, 2007

Presence of Fetal Abnormality	Number	Percentage
Yes	9	1.3%
No/Unknown	698	98.7%
Total	707	100%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 73
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Method of Disposal, 2007

Method of Disposal	Number	Percentage
Burial	9	1.3%
Incineration	587	83.0%
Not Stated - Medical	111	15.7%
Total	707	100%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

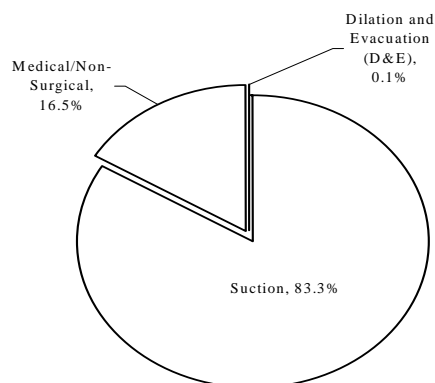
Table 73, to the left, indicates the method used to dispose of the fetus in 2007. The main method of disposal in 2007 was incineration with 587 or 83 percent.

Termination Procedure

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked questions about the termination procedure. Figure 24, to the right, illustrates the primary procedures used to perform induced abortions in South Dakota in 2007.

In 2007, medical/non-surgical was used for 16.5 percent of the cases and dilation and evacuation was used for less than 1 percent of the cases. The majority of the cases used suction in 2007 with an overall percentage of 83.3 percent.

Figure 24
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Primary Procedure Used, 2007



Note: Procedures used for Induced Abortions can change dramatically depending on the physician who performs them.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

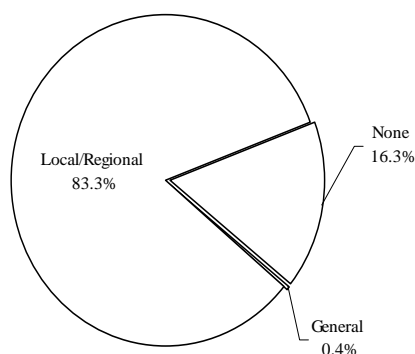
Table 74, to the right, indicates additional procedures that were used to terminate the pregnancy in 2007. Over half of the abortions had an additional procedure. In 68.6 percent or 485 of the abortions an additional procedure was used to terminate the pregnancy. Sharp curettage was the additional procedure most often used with 67.6 percent. There were no cases of maternal complications reported to the Department of Health in 2007.

Table 74
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by
Any Additional Procedures Used, 2007

Additional Procedures Used	Number	Percentage
No Additional Procedure	222	31.4%
Sharp Curettage	478	67.6%
Other	7	1.0%
Total	707	100.0%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 25
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota
by Type of Anesthetic Used, 2007



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 25, to the left, illustrates the type of anesthetic used for abortions performed in South Dakota. In 2007, 83.3 percent of patients were given a local or regional anesthetic while 0.4 percent were given a general anesthetic. Patients who received no anesthetic made up 16.3 percent.

Reason for the Induced Abortion

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asks a question about the reason for the induced abortion. Table 75, on the next page, illustrates the reasons that patients had induced abortions from 2003 to 2007. The mother did not desire to have the child has been the highest response since 2003.

The mother could not afford the child has been the second highest response since 2003. In 2006, 14.4 percent of mothers gave more than one response while in 2007, 29.3 percent of mothers gave more than one response.

Table 75
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Reason for Abortion, 2003-2007

Reason for Induced Abortion	2007		2006		2005		2004		2003	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
The pregnancy was a result of rape or incest	12	1.7%	3	0.4%	9	1.1%	23	2.8%	21	2.6%
The mother could not afford the child	237	33.5%	160	21.4%	205	25.5%	397	48.8%	366	44.7%
The mother did not desire to have the child	588	83.2%	633	84.6%	640	79.5%	576	70.8%	525	64.1%
The mother's emotional health was at risk	37	5.2%	16	2.1%	58	7.2%	119	14.6%	104	12.7%
The mother would suffer substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function if the pregnancy continued	12	1.7%	11	1.5%	22	2.7%	29	3.6%	16	2.0%
Other	54	7.6%	48	6.4%	103	12.8%	127	15.6%	124	15.1%
Refused to answer	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	5	0.6%	33	4.0%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

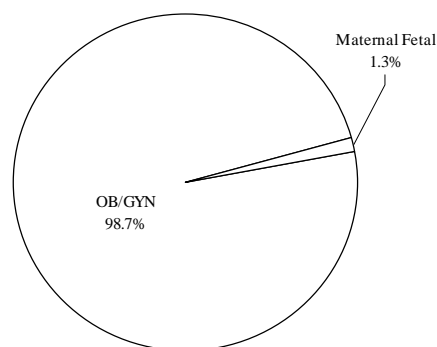
Physician Specialty Information

Figure 26, to the right, illustrates the specialty of the physicians who performed abortions in South Dakota in 2007. Almost all abortions were performed by an OB/GYN. During the 2007 reporting period, none of the physicians who performed induced abortions in South Dakota had their license revoked or suspended or had been subject to other professional sanctions.

Voluntary and Informed Consent Form

All the report forms received by the South Dakota Department of Health for induced abortions performed in 2007 indicated that patients received the required counseling.

Figure 26
Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Physician's Specialty, 2007



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

The Voluntary and Informed Consent Form is used to collect data regarding informed consent information supplied to abortion patients. The data showed that of the 993 forms received, 949 of the patients reported receiving the medical information during a telephone conversation and 44 in person. Of the 993 forms that were received 950 indicated that the medical information was provided by the physician performing the induced abortion and 44 by the referring physician.

Physicians performing the abortion supplied 5 of the patients with the resource information; 989 patients reported receiving the data from an agent of the physician performing the abortion. A total of 911 patients reported receiving the resource information by telephone and 83 reported receiving the information in person.

One patient received the resource information from the more than one source.

Table 76, below, illustrates the breakdown of who provided the medical and resource material.

Of the 993 forms received, 993 indicated that the patient was offered the printed fetal growth and development information. Of the 993, 909 did not accept the information while, 939 declined the website information. In regards to the patient obtaining the induced abortion, 707 indicated that the patient went on to obtain the induced abortion while 286 did not have the procedure.

Table 76
Source of Medical and Resource Information, 2007

	Medical		Resource	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Referring Physician	44	4.4	1	0.1
Agent of Referring Physician	-	-	1	0.1
Physician Performing the Induced Abortion	950	95.6	5	0.5
Agent of Physician Performing the Induced Abortion	-	-	989	99.3
Total	*994	100	**996	100

Note: *One form indicate both gave the medical information.

**More than one response was given.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Parental Notice

The Parental Notice Form is used to collect data regarding parental consent for minors obtaining induced abortions. The form asks a question about who is responsible for the minor patient. Of the 51 forms submitted, 48 indicated the person responsible for the minor patient was a parent, in three cases it was not stated, however a parent was notified. The data showed that notice to a

a parent or guardian was provided to a parent or guardian in 48 of the cases. Of the remaining forms, three forms indicated the physician was authorized by the court to perform the induced abortion. In regards to the minor obtaining the induced abortion, 46 indicated the minor went on to obtain the induced abortion while 5 did not have the procedure.

